[24th July 1953

SRI M. VEERABHADRAM :—" Sir, is there any rule prohibiting the opening of a school within one mile of another school, which is there already, even though the two schools may be situated in two separate villages?"

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" A certain amount of planning is necessary whenever we give permission for starting new schools. It is certainly necessary to lay down the minimum distance between one school and another in order to avoid competition. But every encouragement is given taking into consideration the area, its accessibility and the number of children likely to be required for the school."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Question time is over. The answers to the rest of the questions will be printed in the proceedings."

Alleged murder of Sri Eganathan, a Harijan lad.

* 974 *Q.*—SRI A. RATHINAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government received representations from various Harijan organizations of India and the father of one Eganathan, a murdered Harijan lad, about the inaction of the police in the matter of investigation into the murder of the said Eganathan; and

(*b*) whether the Government have taken any action on the representations made to them?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) Representations regarding the alleged murder of the Harijan lad Eganathan and the inaction of the police in the matter were received by the Government from Sri N. S. Karuppiah, father of Eganathan, from Sri S. Raman, brother of Sri N. S. Karuppiah and from the General Secretary, Pan Malayan Adi-Dravida Federation, Singapore.

" (*b*) Yes; an enquiry by the C.I.D. was ordered by the Government. The enquiry showed that there was no evidence to conclude definitely that the deceased had been murdered. There was also nothing to show that the police had failed in their duty."

Purchase of Gosthani and Meghadrigadda water-works in Visakhapatnam by Government.

* 975 *Q.*—SRI M. VEERABHADRAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that in the year 1946–47 the Military Department offered the Gosthani and Meghadrigadda water-works in Visakhapatnam to the Government for sale;

(*b*) if so, at what rate they were offered; and

(*c*) what was the reply given to them by the Government?